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General and complete disarmament: Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World

Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Eritrea, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Malawi, Nicaragua, Palau, Sierra Leone, Tuvalu, Uganda and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World

The General Assembly,

Recalling its longstanding support for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons and its resolution 70/57 of 7 December 2015, by which it adopted the Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World,

Recognizing the need to achieve a world without nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing, in this regard, the fundamental role of the agreement on the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly of 30 June 1978,[1] in which it is stated, inter alia, that "effective measures of nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war have the highest priority",

Emphasizing also the crucial role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[2] in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and recalling in particular the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty, agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and reaffirmed by the 2010 Review Conference,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[3] in which the Court concluded unanimously that there exists an obligation to pursue in good

[1] Resolution S-10/2.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.
[3] A/51/218, annex.

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faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Acknowledging the significant contribution made towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, through the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, although they are not an end in themselves, and reaffirming the political decision of 115 States parties to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia to reject nuclear weapons,

Noting the adoption, with a vote, of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination,[4]

Recalling the relevant principles and agreements of international humanitarian law and the laws of war, and noting the expression of deep concern by the 2010 Review Conference at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,[5]

Taking into account, in this context, the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, announced in May 2018,

1. *Recalls* the adoption of the Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World, annexed to resolution 70/57;

2. *Invites* States, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Declaration and to promote its implementation;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the efforts and measures they have taken with respect to the implementation of the Declaration, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session a report on the implementation of the Declaration;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-sixth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", a sub-item entitled "Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World".

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[4] A/CONF.229/2017/8.

[5] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.